

Sen. Dole Using Free Mail for ABM

By Drew Pearson
and Jack Anderson

The question of just how far a Senator can go in using his free mailing privileges has been raised by an ABM propaganda campaign by Sen. Bob Dole, the handsome Kansas Republican.

Bob is gung-ho for the antiballistic missile system. His fellow Republican from Kansas, Jim Pearson, is equally against. Pearson has been subjected to intense pressure from the Nixon Administration to change his vote, including a warning from a Wichita airplanes manufacturer that Pentagon orders would be cut off unless Pearson votes right.

In contrast, Sen. Dole has been sending out literature for the ABM in which he solicits funds on behalf of the "American Security Council."

Furthermore, Sen. Dole has been mailing this literature outside the state of Kansas. The use of the free franking privilege to raise funds would appear to be unethical, possibly illegal, though the law is not clear. Certainly widespread propaganda use of the franking privilege outside a Senator's state raises some questions.

Last year the Post Office tried to collect postage from Sens. Robert Griffin of Michigan and Charles Percy of Illinois, both Republicans, for what it considered flagrant

misuse of the franking privilege. Griffin immediately claimed he was being persecuted and put up such a squawk that the Post Office finally dropped the matter, saying that it was up to the individual Senator to interpret the law for himself.

What Sen. Dole has been doing is mailing tearsheets of a full-page ad published by the American Security Council with an appeal for contributions from \$10 up to \$1000 to put across the ABM system.

In other words, Sen. Dole is not only voting for the ABM but is spending other people's money to collect more money to fight for the ABM. And he's doing it outside the state of Kansas.

Humanity vs. Moon

On the eve of the big shoot for the moon, Rep. Charles Joelson, the New Jersey Democrat, read a poem he composed illustrating "our warped schedule of priorities at a time of despair in our cities."

The poem, entitled "The Challenge," which Joelson said did not detract from his "hope and prayer for the success of the moon voyage," goes like this:

"There is more challenge in each square block of city sium Than all the galaxy.
Between brother and brother, more awful distance.
Than the long boulevard of lonely space.

"It will be written that in 1969, primitive man canned himself

And catapulted through the void,"

While hunger, hate and sickness stalked his earth.

Choosing not to try for Heaven, just the moon.

"The old gnarled black man, sitting in the seamy summer of

Seventh Street amidst the broken glass,

Is wiser than the scientists at Houston.

He knows what vistas cry to be explored."

Air Routes and Politics

President Nixon, who seldom reads the newspapers, is reported to have read with pleasure the full-page ads boosting the ABM system which he is now trying to get okayed by the Senate.

The sponsors of one full-page ad, "Citizens Committee for Peace with Security," include such friends of Mr. Nixon's as Elmer Bobst, head of Warner-Lambert and the man who got Mr. Nixon placed with the law firm of Nixon, Mudge, Rose, Guthrie, Alexander and Mitchell in New York.

Also on the list are John W. Bricker, former candidate for Vice President; John M. Olin, former treasurer of the Republican National Committee; Admiral Lewis Strauss; Richard M. Scaife, a member of

the Mellon family of Pittsburgh; and John W. Hanes, former Under Secretary of the Treasury and racing stable owner, who dined with Mr. Nixon recently to promote continued tax write-offs for racing stables.

But Mr. Nixon may not have read one interesting name on the list—Robert F. Six, head of Continental Airlines.

Last week Mr. Nixon put the nix on Six. He reversed a firm Civil Aeronautics Board recommendation that Continental Airlines be given the trans-Pacific route to Australia. Instead, Mr. Nixon decreed that the route go to Eastern Airlines, controlled by the Rockefeller family.

Bob Six, former husband of Ethel Merman, star of "Call Me Madam" and "Annie Get Your Gun," is an old golfing partner of the late President Eisenhower and most of his life has been a strong Republican. However, during the Johnson Administration he hired Pierre Salinger, JFK's press secretary, as his PR man, which gave the impression that Six was a Democrat.

Whether this nixed him with Mr. Nixon, or whether the Rockefellers' influence did the nixing is not known. At any rate, Six's contribution to the ABM made no difference. The President ruled out Continental Airlines in favor of Eastern.